

1 **CLAIMS**

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3 1. An enteric coating formulation comprising shellac  
4 and alginate.

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6 2. An enteric coating formulation as in Claim 1,  
7 wherein the alginate is sodium alginate.

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9 3. An enteric coating formulation as in Claims 1 or 2,  
10 wherein the Shellac is in aqueous form.

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12 4. An enteric coating formulation as in any of the  
13 previous Claims, wherein the Shellac is in aqueous  
14 salt form.

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16 5. An enteric coating formulation as in any of the  
17 previous Claims, wherein the formulation is edible.

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19 6. An enteric coating formulation as in any of the  
20 previous Claims, wherein the formulation comprises  
21 between 10-90% Shellac.

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23 7. An enteric coating formulation as in Claims 1 to 5,  
24 wherein the formulation comprises between 10-90%  
25 alginate.

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27 8. An enteric coating formulation as in Claims 1 to 5,  
28 where there are equal quantities of Shellac and  
29 sodium alginate present in the formulation.

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31 9. An enteric coating formulation as in any of the  
32 previous Claims, wherein the formulation is in the  
33 form of a spray solution or a suspension.

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- 2 10. An enteric coating formulation as in any of the
- 3 previous Claims, wherein the alginate is of a low
- 4 viscosity grade.
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- 6 11. An enteric coating formulation as in any of the
- 7 previous Claims, wherein the alginate has a
- 8 viscosity of between 200 and 300 cps.
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- 10 12. An enteric coating formulation as in any of the
- 11 previous Claims, wherein the formulation further
- 12 comprises a plasticiser.
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- 14 13. A method of applying an enteric coating formulation
- 15 of any of the previous Claims, wherein the
- 16 formulation is applied to a dosage unit by spraying.
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- 18 14. A dosage unit comprising an enteric outer coating,
- 19 wherein the enteric outer coating is of a
- 20 formulation as described in Claims 1 to 12.
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- 22 15. A method for preparing an enteric coating for any of
- 23 Claims 1 to 12, comprising the step of mixing an
- 24 aqueous solution of an alkali salt of Shellac with
- 25 an aqueous solution of sodium alginate.